



International experts to discuss global dairy trends at DATCP symposium during World Dairy Expo

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Media Contacts: Rick Hummell, 608-224-5041, Richard.hummell@wi.gov or Bill Cosh, Communications Director, 608-224-5020, william2cosh@wi.gov

Dairy industries around the world are facing an unprecedented, complex mix of challenges and opportunities triggered by factors as diverse as the interconnectedness of the global dairy industry, consumer demands for traceability, the growing use of information technology in production, and the impacts of economic fluctuations.

To help sort out these complex issues, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is hosting a global dairy symposium during World Dairy Expo featuring leading experts on the current and future state of the global dairy industry. Symposium presenters will share knowledge about global production trends, the impact of changing economies throughout the world, predictions on where the global dairy sector is heading, and many other topics.

The symposium will be held Thursday, Oct. 6, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., at Madison's Alliant Energy Center, Mendota Room 4.

Presenters include: Sharon Sydow, Senior Economist, Office of the Chief Economist, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.; Tom Bailey, Food & Agribusiness Research and Advisory Group, Rabobank, New York, NY; and, Robert Erhard, Agricultural Material Specialist (Dairy) for Nestlé, Geneva, Switzerland.

“World Dairy Expo serves as a forum for dairy producers, companies and enthusiasts from throughout Wisconsin, the United States and the world to come together to exchange ideas, and our agency is pleased to be hosting this global dairy symposium to hear from world-wide experts about global dairy trends,” said DATCP Secretary Ben Brancel. “They’ll share insights on many of the complex issues facing the dairy industry, such as the impacts of trade policies, the increasing use of technology, food security concerns, and the impact of fluctuating world economies.”

“DATCP is offering an unprecedented opportunity for World Dairy Expo participants to hear from global dairy experts,” said Jen Pino-Gallagher, director of DATCP’s International Agribusiness Center. “Nestlé is literally the largest dairy company in the world, and we’re honored to have symposium speakers with the breadth of knowledge and expertise of Mr. Erhard and the other presenters.”

The event, presented in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, is free, but registration is required. Register by September 30 at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2016-global-dairy-symposium-tickets-26041445665>.

For more information, contact Jen Pino-Gallagher at jen.pinogallagher@wi.gov, or call 608-224-5125.